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DE RUEHVI #1834 3490657
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 140657Z DEC 08
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1671
INFO RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA 1216
RUEHTH/AMEMBASSY ATHENS 0989
RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN 1787
RUEHSW/AMEMBASSY BERN 1171
RUEHSL/AMEMBASSY BRATISLAVA 2122
RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS 1417
RUEHUP/AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST 1283
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 0225
RUEHCP/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN 0613
RUEHDL/AMEMBASSY DUBLIN 0226
RUEHHE/AMEMBASSY HELSINKI 0461
RUEHLI/AMEMBASSY LISBON 0395
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0786
RUEHLE/AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG 0127
RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID 0969
RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO 0479
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 0509
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0959
RUEHPG/AMEMBASSY PRAGUE 1493
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 3118
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 0182
RUEHSM/AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM 0498
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE 1185
RUEHVI/AMEMBASSY VIENNA 0015
RUEHWR/AMEMBASSY WARSAW 1396
RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON 0098
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC

UNCLAS VIENNA 001834

SIPDIS

EEB/ESC FOR JOEL KOPP
USOECN PARIS FOR PAMELA BATES

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ENRG](#) [IEA](#) [AU](#)

SUBJECT: IEA BUDGET: AUSTRIA FAVORS ZRG, OPPOSES REFORMING
SCALE OF CONTRIBUTION

REF: STATE 129509

1. SUMMARY: Austria will support a zero real growth (ZRG) IEA budget that maintains existing activities; failing consensus, it sees zero nominal growth (ZNG) as a fall-back but will not/not accept scale of contribution reform. The GOA has no political appetite for more concessions of large contributors so soon after OECD Part I reforms this spring. END SUMMARY.

2. Econoff delivered reftel demarche to Dr. Ulrike Magloth, Director of International Economic Affairs at the Austrian Federal Chancellery. Post also provided a courtesy copy to the GOA Ministry for European and International Affairs.

3. GOA representative said that Europeans favor ZRG and that a ZNG approach -- shrinking the IEA in real terms -- would "send a wrong signal" just as the USG and Europe try to revolutionize their energy sectors. The GOA sees "no need" to change the IEA's scale of contributions: Magloth said flatly that such reform will not/not happen in the coming year for the IEA or other non-Part I OECD-related activities. It is "politically unfeasible" for the GOA (and others asked to pay a larger share) to swallow such a change less than 12 months after agreeing to new scales for the OECD Part I budget. Rather, she suggested that absent consensus next week, one could defer the question until February by allowing the IAE to operate on a provisional basis at last year's levels.

